

SPRINGSTIMES

Your Sandy Springs News Source

Greetings!



Water is one of our most precious resources. The United States has one of the safest water supplies in the world, and on Dec. 16th of this year we will celebrate the 33rd anniversary of The Safe Drinking Water Act. Drinking water, and perhaps irrigation, is where most of us stop thinking about water.

However, I'd like for you to think about this: The City of Sandy Springs uses millions of gallons of water per day. For this resource to last in this critical drought, we must conserve water on a daily basis. City officials and staff are taking numerous steps to plan and implement measures to ensure our health and well being, public safety and economic vitality, while encouraging our residents and businesses to conserve.

These measures go beyond water bans. This drought has made it clear that the Atlanta region is depending on a very small river for its water supply. The Chattahoochee River is not a major river and as the fastest growing metro area in the south, we need to start investigating alternatives. I suggest it is time the State consider desalinization, bringing water up from Savannah after salt has been removed. Please make a personal choice to respond to this crisis by thinking each and every time before you turn on the faucet or hose, flush the toilet, let the shower run to get warm, do half loads of laundry and wash your car. I urge you to conserve. Your drop in the bucket can make a difference.

Also, on a different note: The City will be turning two on December 1st. Join me in celebrating this milestone. We have accomplished so much since the City's inception: starting the Police and Fire Departments, running a top-notch Code Enforcement program, erasing the backlog of building permits, completing the Comprehensive Plan process, monitoring transportation projects on an ongoing basis, maintaining traffic control devices, overseeing the day-to-day maintenance of the streets and rights of way, all while assuring the fiscal responsibility of the City.

The City of Sandy Springs Birthday Celebration will be held Tuesday, December 4, 2007, from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. at City Hall's Council Chambers. Watch for details on the City's Web site at www.sandyspringsga.org. We'd like you to attend.

More information on these topics and others is outlined in complete detail in the City's award-winning annual report. If you would like a copy, please call the Citizen Response Center at 770-730-5600 or to view it online, visit www.sandyspringsga.org.

Thank you,

Mayor Eva Galambos, Ph.D.
City of Sandy Springs



Drought and Trees: Look for Signs of Change

Trees across Georgia changed color, and not because of an early fall. According to the Georgia Forestry Commission, the prolonged drought has put dangerous stress on trees, causing leaves and pine needles to curl, drop or change colors. Increased pest activity is another health issue taking its toll on drought-stricken trees.

"The weakest trees are the ones that succumb to moisture stress first. Sometimes it's the trees that have been damaged from soil disturbance, such as on construction sites or even on lawns that have been over-manicured," said City of Sandy Springs Assistant Arborist Jesse Milton. Hardwoods also suffer from lack of rain. They may shut down their systems by dropping their leaves for the season in preparation for next year.

"Well-established trees have a root system that is astoundingly large. It is a

Continued on next page

In This Issue

- Conservation Is Key2
- Studying for Streetscape Improvements3
- Ready Responders to the Rescue3
- Making the Future a Little Greener3
- SSPD Appears in Glock Ad4
- Operation Pave On: Sandy Springs Gets Serious About Paving4



Conservation is Key

Metro Atlantans use 750 million gallons of water per day. Growing demand for water is outpacing the supply. Where does Sandy Springs fit into this? Well, the average per capita use in a three-person household in the City is 90 gallons per person per day. As Lake Lanier drops to critical lows, conservation is key. Everyone can make a difference. Here's how.

Residential

Leaks:

- Check faucets and hose connections for leaks. Inspect pipes for pinhole leaks and leaking joints. A slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you will save almost 6,000 gallons a year.

Showers and Baths:

- Use low volume showerheads. They are inexpensive and can pay for themselves in water, sewer and energy savings in less than a year. For a five minute shower they can reduce water usage from 40 gallons to 12 to 15 gallons.
- If your shower has a single-handle control or shut off valve, turn off the flow while soaping or shampooing.
- Take showers instead of tub baths.
- Consider bathing small children together.
- Leave the water off when brushing your teeth or shaving.

Toilets:

- Flush only when needed.
- Do not use the toilet as a trash can.
- Put a water displacement device inside the toilet tank.
- Check and repair leaks.

The Kitchen and Laundry:

- Do only full loads of laundry. Avoid using extra cycles whenever possible.
- Choose water-saving and energy efficiency models.
- Use a dishpan or plug the sink for washing and rinsing dishes. Install a low-flow aerator on all faucets.
- Do not pre-rinse dishes prior to loading in a dishwasher. Prerinsing is an unnecessary and wasteful use of water.

- Use the sink disposal sparingly.
- Operate the washing machine and dishwasher only when they are fully loaded.
- Use the proper water level or load size selection on the washing machine.
- Defrost sensibly. Plan ahead to defrost foods overnight in the refrigerator.
- Don't use running water. Use the microwave or put wrapped food in a bowl of cold water.

Drinking Water:

- Keep a container of cool water in the refrigerator instead of running the faucet.

General Home:

- Turn off the lights when you are not in the room. Energy is produced using large volumes of water. Reducing energy demands can reduce the water needed to produce that energy.
- Reuse clean household water. Collect all the water that is wasted while waiting for the hot water to reach your faucet or showerhead. Use this to water your houseplants or outdoor planters. Do the same with water that is used to boil eggs or steam vegetables.

Outside the Home:

- Equip your hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways, steps and sidewalks.
- Use mulch around shrubs and garden plants to reduce evaporation from the surface and cut down on weed growth.

Commercial/Industrial Water Conservation Program:

- If a program does not already exist, start one. Contact Atlanta Water for assistance.
- Assign water usage monitors.
- Adjust water flows in industrial processes to save water.

Install Water Recycling Equipment:

- Water intensive uses, such as car washes and cooling systems should install permanent water recycling equipment.

"Drought" Continued from cover

true system, having many parts that function as whole, to deliver the tiniest of water molecules to the rest of the tree." Milton added.

According to the Forestry Commission, the red oaks seem to have been affected the most, and the white oak, post oak, dogwood and maple have experienced the most leaf drop and color change. The Commission also warns the conditions are ripe for the southern pine beetle.

Here are signs that your trees may be in trouble: sap seeping from bark; smaller leaves that are less green than usual; leaf spots; branch die-back in the canopy; leaves dropping or changing color early; excessive sawdust at the base of trees may indicate the infestation of beetles; and hardwoods showing symptoms should be reevaluated in the spring to see which ones will re-foliate.

Tree removal is not recommended unless the tree is showing obvious signs of death with decaying fruiting bodies (mushroom-like structures) on the tree or evidence of numerous wood-boring insects.

To speak with the City of Sandy Springs certified arborists, please call 770-730-5600. To view the City's Tree Conservation Ordinance Best Management Practices, which includes Section C on tree maintenance, mulching, watering and fertilizing, visit www.sandyspringsga.org.



Raise Building Temperatures:

- Set minimum temperatures to 75°F for evaporative cooling systems unless the equipment recirculates water.

Reuse Waste Water:

- Use treated waste water for industrial processes and landscape watering.

Studying for Streetscape Improvements



The LCI study will look at transportation, which will help improve congestion, connectivity, air quality and safety for pedestrians.

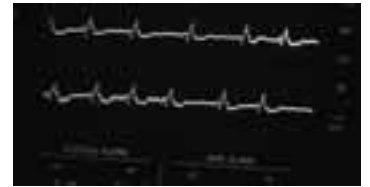
In fall 2007, a study kicked off to determine how improvements can be made to create a more “livable” environment along the aging Roswell Road corridor, south of

I-285. The study, which looks at transportation and land use, is being conducted by the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI), a program sponsored by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). ARC promotes quality growth in the region. Study boundaries are Meadow Brook Drive/City of Atlanta to the south and Lake Forrest Drive to the west; the eastern boundary is approximately 1/4 mile to the east of Roswell Road. The study area also includes the Glenridge Drive corridor from Roswell Road to Johnson Ferry Road.

Prior to Sandy Springs’ incorporation, the community participated in an LCI study of Roswell Road between Glenridge Drive and Abernathy Road. This study resulted in many of the streetscape projects currently being implemented in the emerging town center, north of I-285. Improvements in the current study area will help improve connectivity, traffic congestion, air quality and overall appearance, as well as make the area safer and easier for pedestrians to navigate. Check www.sandyspringsga.org for upcoming meetings.

Ready Responders to the Rescue

Scott Shetler, Wellness Director at the Dunwoody Country Club, recently demonstrated the life-saving capability of the automated external defibrillator (AED)



that the club’s gym has. When a member suddenly went into cardiac arrest at the Sandy Springs-based club this fall, Shetler and a staff trainer put CPR and the AED to use, rapidly coming to the rescue as first-responders. The City’s fire department was on the scene within five minutes, however, in those critical first seconds, the combination of four rounds of CPR and the usage of the AED likely saved the member’s life.

“The Dunwoody Country Club life-saving incident demonstrates how knowledge of CPR and the presence of an AED can save a life when every second is critical,” said Mayor Eva Galambos. “We commend the staff at Dunwoody Country Club for their responsiveness. They have demonstrated an important lesson that we hope will encourage businesses throughout our City to become equipped to be first responders.”

The City of Sandy Springs launched its state-of-the-art EMS department in January 2007 with a mission, and charge, from City Manager John McDonough to work to improve cardiac event survival rates across the City. The Sandy Springs Fire Rescue Department, since incorporating in December 2006, has worked diligently to achieve its goal of training 1,000 residents in CPR and AED usage, free of charge. If your company has an AED on its premises or if you are interested in being trained in CPR, please let us know at 770-730-5600.

Making the Future a Little Greener

Since the City of Sandy Springs was created, the Mayor and City Council have prioritized projects designed to improve the community’s quality of life. One such project is the Abernathy Greenway Linear Park, which will run along both sides of Abernathy Road between the Chattahoochee River and Roswell Road. In early Fall 2007, the Mayor and Council voted unanimously in favor of adopting the master plan for the park that is destined to become a signature of the City.

“We are thrilled with the Abernathy master plan and delighted that Sandy Springs will be witnessing the creation of our own signature park,” said Mayor Eva Galambos. “From picnickers to joggers to children at play, this park will offer recreation options for everyone.”

Landscape architecture firm PBS&J created the linear park’s master plan, which includes picnic and seating areas, a plaza and patio, playgrounds, well-lighted trails and gardens. PSB&J worked with the City of Sandy Springs for months, holding public meetings to get community input on important park features. The results of discussion and surveys showed that the adopted master plan was preferred over two similar alternatives. The Abernathy linear park master plan can be viewed on the City’s Web site at www.sandyspringsga.org.





"America's Newest Police Force With America's Newest Glock"

SSPD Appears in Glock Ad

"America's Newest Police Force With America's Newest Glock," leaps off of the page in the new ad by Austrian gun manufacturer Glock. The Sandy Springs Police Department is the first in the country to use the new line of .45-caliber pistols. Twelve officers from the department and Chief Gene Wilson posed for the ad in the late summer. At the time, they were the newest police force; now that is no longer the case.

The ad features the 12 officers, plus the chief, two K-9 units, two mobile command centers, two patrols cars and the two motorcycle units. In the background are the two most recognizable icons of Sandy Springs, the King and Queen buildings.

Training Officer Perry Baxter said the department traded its old sidearms to Glock for the new weapons and holsters. They paid approximately \$4 each for 100 new Glocks and \$469 each for 22 new Glocks, which outfitted the entire force.

Glock will use the ad nationally and internationally in trade magazines. The department was given posters of the ads.

Operation Pave On: Sandy Springs Gets Serious About Paving

When the City of Sandy Springs was incorporated, a comprehensive rating of all of its roads was completed by Infrastructure Management Services (IMS). Every road was then given a score called the Pavement Condition Index. This gave the City's Public Works Department an idea of the need for a pavement management program.

To this point, the City has done one Local Assistance Roads Program (LARP) contract from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for resurfacing and is scheduled to do another project where the roads have been submitted by Fulton County for the state's assistance. These projects require a contribution from the City combined with funding from the state. LARP projects are for resurfacing only.



The City has paved 11 miles under LARP projects and is schedule to pave 18 miles with the upcoming 2007-08 Capital Paving Project, which was issued a notice to proceed this month.

"The upcoming 2007-2008 Capital Paving Project is also for resurfacing. The roads were selected from the initial inspection from 2005," said Ron Adderley, manager of field services for the City of Sandy Springs. "The project addressed the higher traffic roads in the City that are in need of resurfacing. These particular roads will create a great deal of disturbance to the flow of traffic if they are allowed to continue to deteriorate beyond where resurfacing is the appropriate treatment."

General guidelines of the inspection provide that roads rated 30 and over are considered for resurfacing. The roads at the bottom of the rating range are inspected again by staff to verify the rating, look for logical beginning and ending points, check the functional classification and review for other projects such as utility work, developments or other construction that could have an impact on resurfacing. A list of roads is prepared and an estimate is done to compare to budget.



reclamation. The City of Sandy Springs will be contracting work of this type in future budgets as funding allows. The roads rated as the very lowest in the City will be the first priority in these projects. Work of this type is projected to begin in FY 2008-2009."

"Roads with a PCI less than 30 are generally deteriorated to the point where they need more than resurfacing. These roads require partial or complete reconstruction. In that process, the road's base will need to be stabilized," Adderley continued. "This is accomplished either by digging up the road surface and rebuilding the base or by grinding the existing surface into the base in a process called

Contact Us

Sandy Springs Web site: www.sandyspringsga.org

Sandy Springs Citizen Response Center: 770.730.5600